

RRR000953

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January 10, 2008 18:12:25 IP address: 67.87.169.232 The Commentors Name: ---> Mr. Gary Shaw The Commentors Address: ---> 9 van Cortlandt Place ---> Croton on Hudson, New York 10520 Email Information: ---> crotonshaw@optonline.net ---> Add commentor to the mailing list : null Contact Information: ---> fax number : ---> phone number : ---> organization : Crotron CIP ---> position : Member of Steering Committee Comment Text :

--> CORRECTION OF A TYPO - THANK YOU.

The publicly articulated rationale for moving high level radioactive wastes produced by nuclear power plants has been that there is greater safety in having the nuclear wastes centralized rather than widely dispersed at the 103 reactor sites in the United States. I argue that this is a fallacious premise, and consequently, the rationale for the Yucca Mountain is inoperable and the facility does not warrant further development.

In short, the claim that having a central repository is safer than keeping high level radioactive wastes at their production sites can only be considered valid if the high level wastes are no longer being produced. If the wastes are continually produced by nuclear electricity production, then Yucca Mountain is nothing more than an enabling mechanism to minimize storage needs at nuclear generating plant facilities but provides no increase of public health and safety..

If, in fact, the safety premise were to be true, then it should be easy to show statistically that the probability of a radiation release at a nuclear generating plant that stores its wastes in cooling pools and then moves those wastes to dry casks is higher than the probability of a release event if wastes were shipped from their points of origination via trucks, trains and all other transport vehicles to Yucca Mountain.

I respectfully ask that the relative potential risk assessment calculations be made public to verify the higher safety level of the centralized storage facilities before any further consideration of Yucca Mountain storage proceed.

Obviously, the results of those calculations have substantial environmental impacts because any release, whether at a self-contained nuclear generating facility or while in transit through areas that do not contain nuclear plants, will severely and negatively affect the environment in proximity to the release event.